**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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| Application No.: 10/032,686<br>Filed: October 23, 2001<br>Inventor(s):<br>Ken-Ming Li and<br>Saleh M. Abdel-Hafeez<br><br>Title: External Power Ring with Multiple Tapings to Reduce IR Drop in Integrated Circuit | §<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§ | Examiner: Loke, Steven Ho Yin<br>Group/Art Unit: 2811<br>Atty. Dkt. No: 6051-00200 |

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON COMPLIANT AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop Amendment**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated 8/4/06 with a statutory period of response set to expire 9/4/06.

Applicant notes that the Examiner's indication of non compliance is

The added subject matter should be underlined (sp) – blank spaces between lines of claim 1 and 34.

Applicant is not exactly sure what the examiner is referring too. However, in a best effort to advance this case, Applicant presumes that the examiner is referring to the added paragraph return before the "wherein" clause of these two claims. As applicant is unsure how to illustrate such by way of markings, applicant has added an underline space to line 10 of claim 1, and line 17 of claim 34 to indicate a separation. If this is

insufficient to indicate a paragraph return, applicant respectfully requests the examiner to correct this edit by way of examiner's amendment.

Should the applicant have misunderstood the examiner's indication of non-compliance, applicant respectfully requests the examiner to further specify the non-compliance and indicate how such should be corrected.

The remainder of this amendment is identical to the Amendment previously submitted, but for the underlined space added to claims 1 and 34.

Please amend the case as listed below.